

# Sexually Transmitted Diseases Methods In Molecular Medicine

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**Infectious Disease Surveillance** - Nkuchia M. M'ikanatha 2013-03-11

This fully updated edition of Infectious Disease Surveillance is for frontline public health practitioners, epidemiologists, and clinical microbiologists who are engaged in communicable disease control. It is also a foundational text for trainees in public health, applied epidemiology, postgraduate medicine and nursing programs. The second edition portrays both the conceptual framework and practical aspects of infectious disease surveillance. It is a comprehensive resource designed to improve the tracking of infectious diseases and to serve as a starting point in the development of new surveillance systems.

Infectious Disease Surveillance includes over 45 chapters from over 100 contributors, and topics organized into six sections based on major themes. Section One highlights the critical role surveillance plays in public health and it provides an overview of the current International Health Regulations (2005) in addition to successes and challenges in infectious disease eradication. Section Two describes surveillance systems based on logical program areas such as foodborne illnesses, vector-borne diseases, sexually transmitted diseases, viral hepatitis healthcare and transplantation associated infections. Attention is devoted to programs for monitoring unexplained deaths, agents of bioterrorism, mass gatherings, and disease associated with international travel. Sections Three and Four explore the uses of the Internet and wireless technologies to advance infectious disease

surveillance in various settings with emphasis on best practices based on deployed systems. They also address molecular laboratory methods, and statistical and geospatial analysis, and evaluation of systems for early epidemic detection. Sections Five and Six discuss legal and ethical considerations, communication strategies and applied epidemiology-training programs. The rest of the chapters offer public-private partnerships, as well lessons from the 2009-2010 H1N1 influenza pandemic and future directions for infectious disease surveillance.

*Sexually Transmitted Diseases* - Rosanna Peeling 2008-02-01

In recent years, molecular techniques have enhanced our ability to detect sexually transmitted infections and to conduct research to further our understanding of sexually transmitted diseases. Molecular methods to quantitate pathogen load have also been shown to be useful for the management of HIV and other viral STDs. Existing laboratory manuals for the clinical microbiology laboratory often do not include molecular methods for STDs. Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Methods and Protocols is intended to fill the need for a dedicated manual that covers all the fundamental aspects of molecular protocols for laboratory diagnosis, as well as research methodology for STDs, including HIV. There are more than types of molecular techniques described in this book covering nine major sexually transmitted pathogens. Although molecular methods for the detection of such pathogens as *Trichomonas vaginalis* are available in the published literature, they have not been included since they are not yet widely

used for laboratory diagnosis or research.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Methods and Protocols is one of a series of books treating Methods Molecular Medicine, published by Humana Press.

### Molecular and Cell Biology of Sexually

Transmitted Diseases - D.J. Wright 2012-12-06

Molecular and Cell Biology of Human Diseases reviews the status of research on a range of sexually transmitted diseases whose incidence has paralleled the increase in HIV infection and examines the ways in which new methods are influencing current practice and are likely to shape future management.

### **Molecular Typing in Bacterial Infections, Volume II** - Ivano de Filippis 2022-01-03

This updated second edition of Molecular Typing in Bacterial Infections, presented in two volumes, covers both common and neglected bacterial pathogenic agents, highlighting the most effective methods for their identification and classification in the light of their specific epidemiology. New chapters have been included to add new species, as well as another view of how bacterial typing can be used. These books are valuable resources for the molecular typing of infectious disease agents encountered in both research and hospital clinical laboratory settings, as well as in culture collections and in the industry. Each of the 21 chapters provides an overview of specific molecular approaches to efficiently detect and type different bacterial pathogens. The chapters are grouped in five parts, covering respiratory and urogenital pathogens (Volume I), and gastrointestinal and healthcare-associated pathogens, as well as a new group of vector-borne and Biosafety level 3 pathogens including a description of typing methods used in the traditional microbiology laboratory in comparison to molecular methods of epidemiology (Volume II). Comprehensive and updated, Molecular Typing in Bacterial Infections provides state-of-the-art methods for accurate diagnosis and for the correct classification of different types which will prove to be critical in unravelling the transmission routes of human pathogens.

### Diagnostics to Pathogenomics of Sexually

Transmitted Infections - Sunit Kumar Singh 2018-09-19

Comprehensively explores sexually transmitted

diseases, from epidemiology, causative pathogens, clinical impact, and immunology, to management strategies utilizing new strategies of genomics and next-generation diagnostic tools Sexually transmitted infections (STI) are very common worldwide. More than 20 different STIs have been identified, and about 19 million men and women are infected each year in the United States alone. This book looks at the complete picture of common STIs— how they form, evolve, and transmit, as well as how they can be treated and managed with modern techniques, medicines, and tools. Diagnostics to Pathogenomics of Sexually Transmitted Infections runs the spectrum of discussion ranging from introduction of causative pathogen, their pathogenesis to epidemiology, immunology, to anatomy and physiology of human genitalia and management strategies. The book offers in-depth chapter coverage on effect of probiotics on reproductive health; mucosal immunity in sexually transmitted infections; the role of circumcision in preventing STIs; Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV); genital herpes; molluscum contagiosum; genital warts; chlamydia trachomatis; donovanosis; gonorrhoea; treponematoses; genital mycoplasmas; bacterial vaginosis; vulvovaginal candidiasis; chlamydia; scabies; chancroid, yeast infections; and more. Comprehensively compiles most of the major sexually transmitted infections Presents updated information on clinical aspects of sexually transmitted infections Examines the priorities in pathogenesis of human sexually transmitted infections and discusses new strategies of genomics and next-generation diagnostic tools used for detection of such pathogens Explores the future of rapid molecular diagnostic techniques and the challenges posed in the diagnosis of human STIs Includes bench to bedside content that will appeal to both basic and clinical researchers By offering the latest knowledge about recent advances in sexually transmitted infections in an interdisciplinary fashion, Diagnostics to Pathogenomics of Sexually Transmitted Infections is the perfect book for virologists, microbiologists, infectious disease experts, vaccinologists, biomedical researchers, clinicians, pharmacologists, and public health specialists.

### Laboratory Diagnosis of Sexually Transmitted Diseases - E. van Dyck 1999

This manual provides an authoritative guide to standard laboratory procedures for detecting and diagnosing sexually transmitted diseases. Addressed to clinical microbiologists and medical technologists, the manual is designed to serve as a practical bench aid, tuned to the needs and capacities of laboratories at different levels in the health system. Although the standard procedures described have universal relevance, particular attention is given to conditions in developing countries, where rapid transport of specimens may not be possible and cost factors may be decisive. Recommended procedures, tests, and techniques are supported by close to 150 references. Noting the constraints on staff and resources faced by most laboratories throughout the world, the manual concentrates on tests known to yield essential diagnostic information. Standard antimicrobial susceptibility tests are described for those diseases where drug resistance is a problem. Although the major emphasis is on procedures for diagnosis, case-finding, and test-of-cure, some procedures useful in epidemiological research are also included. The manual has nine chapters covering the full range of sexually transmitted diseases: gonorrhoea "Chlamydia trachomatis" infection, syphilis, genital herpes, chancroid granuloma inguinale, vaginitis in adults, human papillomavirus infection, and human immunodeficiency virus. Each chapter opens with a brief description of the disease and the principal laboratory approaches to diagnosis, followed by detailed advice on the collection and transport of specimens. Against this background, all relevant laboratory methods, from microscopy, culture and non-culture techniques to serology and the use of commercial test kits, are described in detail, with colour plates used to illustrate selected procedures and results. Apart from providing detailed step-by-step instructions for each procedure, the manual offers abundant practical advice on the selection of tests, their comparative sensitivity, and specificity, the degree of skill required, the correct interpretation of results, and common errors and how to avoid them. The chapter on HIV infection reproduces the latest joint UNAIDS and WHO recommendations for the

selection and use of HIV antibody tests. Further practical guidance for each of these diseases is provided in three annexes, which summarize appropriate diagnostic tests at different levels of the laboratory system, describe the media, reagents, and stains required for the tests, and list all the basic products needed to prepare essential reagents and media.

### **Diagnosis of Sexually Transmitted Diseases**

- Colin R. MacKenzie 2012-07-12

Sexually transmitted infections (STI) continue to be a major cause of morbidity and mortality, both in developed industrial countries as well as in the developing world. Human immunodeficiency virus infections and the ensuing opportunistic infections are a major drain on the human and financial resources of many countries in the developing world and even with the availability of effective treatment the epidemic is not yet contained. Screening in developing worlds is difficult and there is a need for simple reliable cheap diagnostic methods that can be performed at the point of care, on the same day and by staff with limited training. Molecular biological methods are very attractive for the diagnosis of STI since a well defined range of pathogens is responsible for the infection. *Diagnosis of Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Methods and Protocols* strives to cover the full range of molecular testing for STI. Chapters cover a variety of topics such as aspects of DNA extraction from small volume samples or difficult tissues, simple, nested or multiplex PCR, use of duplex primers or other modifications of primers and PCR conditions, sequence analysis for genotyping, denaturing gel analysis, microarrays using liquid beads or microspheres and silicon nanoparticle-enhanced microcantilever detection of DNA. Written in the successful *Methods in Molecular Biology*<sup>TM</sup> series format, chapters include introductions to their respective topics, lists of the necessary materials and reagents, step-by-step, readily reproducible protocols, and notes on troubleshooting and avoiding known pitfalls. Authoritative and easily accessible, *Diagnosis of Sexually Transmitted Diseases: Methods and Protocols* will be a valuable reference for the scientist looking to establish molecular methodologies for the diagnosis of STI tests in their own lab.

Chlamydia - P.A. Mardh 2012-12-06

During recent decades, it has been firmly documented that chlamydiae are common and important pathogens in humans and animals. In humans, chlamydiae are known to cause trachoma (which is still one of the major blinding diseases in the world) and are also one of the most common etiological agents of sexually transmitted diseases and the sequelae thereof, such as infertility. In the last few years, it has also become evident that chlamydiae, i.e., the so-called TWAR agents, are common respiratory tract pathogens. Chlamydiae are also important pathogens in birds and lower mammals, in whom they cause a variety of infectious conditions, a spectrum which has increased every year. Some of these infections occur as zoonoses, e.g., psittacosis/ornithosis and, as recently discovered, abortion. Knowledge of the molecular biology and immunobiology of chlamydiae has expanded rapidly during recent years. Insight into the pathophysiology of chlamydial infections has also increased, and new methods for the diagnosis of chlamydial infections have been introduced. The importance of establishing control and preventive programs for chlamydial infections has become obvious in order to combat the present chlamydial epidemic. We hope that this book can usefully serve those who want to increase their general knowledge of Chlamydia and that it can act as a handbook and reference source for those involved in chlamydial research as well as for those working with chlamydial infections in medical and veterinary clinical disciplines, including clinical laboratories.

**HPV Infections: Diagnosis, Prevention, and Treatment** - Azam Bolhassani 2018-01-26

Human papillomavirus (HPV) infection is one of the most frequently sexually transmitted diseases in the world. HPV infections are responsible for almost all cases of genital warts and are also responsible for multiple cancer in different regions of the body. Several studies on HPV diagnosis and vaccine development are in progress. Recently, two commercial vaccines such as Gardasil and Cervarix have been used to prevent HPV infections. Various drugs have also been tested in clinical trials for the treatment of HPV-related cancers. HPV infections: Diagnosis, Prevention, and Treatment provides a

comprehensive overview of diagnosis, prevention and treatment in HPV-related infections. Chapters cover a large range of topics including HPV epidemiology, molecular biology, transmission, diagnosis, prevention, and treatment along with information about preclinical and clinical experiments. This book is intended as a comprehensive handbook for medical students and residents who require information about HPV and the treatment of HPV related diseases.

**Sexually Transmitted Infections** - Antonio Cristaudo 2020-05-30

This comprehensive, well-illustrated, and easily accessible book documents the latest research outcomes concerning sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and describes important advances in their prevention, diagnosis and treatment. The changes in the epidemiology and clinical aspects of STIs that have occurred over the past decade are fully explored, with special attention to core groups and patients with immunological disorders. The emerging challenges associated with particular sexually transmitted pathogens, including *C. trachomatis*, *N. gonorrhoeae*, HPV, and HIV, are identified and discussed. Readers will find detailed information on modern preventive strategies, new laboratory and diagnostic techniques, and a range of innovative treatments, including vaccines, continuous antiretroviral therapy, and new drugs against hepatitis viruses. Attention is also drawn to new directions in biomedical research that promise clinical benefits for the patients and communities. The combination of a detailed clinical and research approach, with emphasis on new knowledge and innovative aspects, ensures that the book will be of value to a wide readership comprising both clinicians and researchers.

**Contraceptive Research and Development** - Committee on Contraceptive Research and Development 1996-11-18

The "contraceptive revolution" of the 1960s and 1970s introduced totally new contraceptive options and launched an era of research and product development. Yet by the late 1980s, conditions had changed and improvements in contraceptive products, while very important in relation to improved oral contraceptives, IUDs, implants, and injectables, had become primarily

incremental. Is it time for a second contraceptive revolution and how might it happen? *Contraceptive Research and Development* explores the frontiers of science where the contraceptives of the future are likely to be found and lays out criteria for deciding where to make the next R&D investments. The book comprehensively examines today's contraceptive needs, identifies "niches" in those needs that seem most readily translatable into market terms, and scrutinizes issues that shape the market: method side effects and contraceptive failure, the challenge of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted diseases, and the implications of the "women's agenda." *Contraceptive Research and Development* analyzes the response of the pharmaceutical industry to current dynamics in regulation, liability, public opinion, and the economics of the health sector and offers an integrated set of recommendations for public- and private-sector action to meet a whole new generation of demand.

[Epidemiologic Methods for the Study of Infectious Diseases](#) - James C. Thomas  
2001-03-22

This is the first comprehensive text on the methodological issues in epidemiologic research on infectious diseases. It will be an invaluable resource both to students of epidemiology and to established researchers. The authors address such questions as: What needs to be considered when enrolling participants in a study of sexually transmitted diseases? What are common sources of measurement error in population-based studies of respiratory infections? What are some sources of existing data for epidemiologic studies of infectious diseases? Answers to these and many other related questions can be found in this well-organized, comprehensive and authoritative volume - the first to thoroughly address the methodologic issues in conducting epidemiologic research on infectious diseases. The book will be an ideal complement to texts on general epidemiology and infectious disease. An introductory section will make it accessible to a wide variety of disciplines by providing an overview of topics that are foundational to understanding infectious disease epidemiology, such as the immunology of infections, the biology of infectious diseases, and concepts of

causation, transmission, and dynamics. The rest of the book is structured around sections on data sources and measurement; methods by transmission type; outbreak investigation and evaluation research; and special topics such as HIV/AIDS research, infections in the elderly, and research collaborations in developing countries. *Sexually Transmitted Infections* - National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine 2021-12-24

One in five people in the United States had a sexually transmitted infection (STI) on any given day in 2018, totaling nearly 68 million estimated infections. STIs are often asymptomatic (especially in women) and are therefore often undiagnosed and unreported. Untreated STIs can have severe health consequences, including chronic pelvic pain, infertility, miscarriage or newborn death, and increased risk of HIV infection, genital and oral cancers, neurological and rheumatological effects. In light of this, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, through the National Association of County and City Health Officials, commissioned the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to convene a committee to examine the prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections in the United States and provide recommendations for action. In 1997, the Institute of Medicine released a report, *The Hidden Epidemic: Confronting Sexually Transmitted Diseases*. Although significant scientific advances have been made since that time, many of the problems and barriers described in that report persist today; STIs remain an underfunded and comparatively neglected field of public health practice and research. The committee reviewed the current state of STIs in the United States, and the resulting report, *Sexually Transmitted Infections: Advancing a Sexual Health Paradigm*, provides advice on future public health programs, policy, and research.

*Pelvic Inflammatory Disease* - Daniel Abehsera  
2019

Pelvic inflammatory disease (PID) is an entity whose diagnosis is not always easy. The PID comprises a wide range of clinical forms ranging from banal to severe disease processes that compromise the life of the patient. The etiologic diagnosis is not always possible, because the

germs responsible cannot always be detected by the usual culture medium, which is why the use of molecular biology techniques is required. The classical definition of PID is a secondary infection of the female genital tract, due to infection of a sexually transmitted disease like *Chlamydia trachomatis*, or *Neisseria gonorrhoea*. This notion is being displaced by the concept of PID as a secondary infection by a germ from the altered vaginal flora. The interpretation of complementary tests is difficult because severe cases can present with normal analytical profiles, and an absence of findings on imaging tests. Usually, when an image of pelvic abscess is observed, it usually indicates a failure of medical treatments; however, it is possible to perform a step prior to surgical treatment by ultrasound-guided puncture of the abscess. The use of laparoscopy in the PID is very important for both diagnosis and treatment when there is a failure of drug therapy. An early approach to the disease is essential to prevent damage in the female genital tract that will compromise the fertility of the patient in the future.

Sexually Transmitted Diseases - 1999

**Infectious Disease Epidemiology** - Ibrahim Abubakar 2016-03-31

Infectious Disease Epidemiology provides a concise reference for practicing epidemiologists, and provides trainee readers with a thorough understanding of basic the concepts which are critical to understanding specialist areas of infectious disease epidemiology. Divided into two sections, part one of the book covers a comprehensive list of methods relevant to the study of infectious disease epidemiology, organised in order of increasing complexity, from a general introduction, to subjects such as mathematical modelling and sero-epidemiology. Part two addresses major infectious diseases that are of global significance due to their current burden or their potential for causing morbidity and mortality. The examples have been selected and grouped into chapters based on the route of transmission. This practical guide will be essential reading for postgraduate students in infectious disease epidemiology, health protection trainees.

*Advanced Techniques in Diagnostic Microbiology* - Yi-Wei Tang 2007-01-16

Clinical microbiologists are engaged in the field of diagnostic microbiology to determine whether pathogenic microorganisms are present in clinical specimens collected from patients with suspected infections. If microorganisms are found, these are identified and susceptibility profiles, when indicated, are determined. During the past two decades, technical advances in the field of diagnostic microbiology have made constant and enormous progress in various areas, including bacteriology, mycology, mycobacteriology, parasitology, and virology. The diagnostic capabilities of modern clinical microbiology laboratories have improved rapidly and have expanded greatly due to a technological revolution in molecular aspects of microbiology and immunology. In particular, rapid techniques for nucleic acid amplification and characterization combined with automation and user-friendly software have significantly broadened the diagnostic arsenal for the clinical microbiologist. The conventional diagnostic model for clinical microbiology has been labor-intensive and frequently required days to weeks before test results were available. Moreover, due to the complexity and length of such testing, this service was usually directed at the hospitalized patient population. The physical structure of laboratories, staffing patterns, workflow, and turnaround time all have been influenced profoundly by these technical advances. Such changes will undoubtedly continue and lead the field of diagnostic microbiology inevitably to a truly modern discipline. *Advanced Techniques in Diagnostic Microbiology* provides a comprehensive and up-to-date description of advanced methods that have evolved for the diagnosis of infectious diseases in the routine clinical microbiology laboratory. The book is divided into two sections. The first techniques section covers the principles and characteristics of techniques ranging from rapid antigen testing, to advanced antibody detection, to in vitro nucleic acid amplification techniques, and to nucleic acid microarray and mass spectrometry. Sufficient space is assigned to cover different nucleic acid amplification formats that are currently being used widely in the diagnostic microbiology field. Within each technique, examples are given regarding its application in the diagnostic field. Commercial



product information, if available, is introduced with commentary in each chapter. If several test formats are available for a technique, objective comparisons are given to illustrate the contrasts of their advantages and disadvantages. The second applications section provides practical examples of application of these advanced techniques in several "hot" spots in the diagnostic field. A diverse team of authors presents authoritative and comprehensive information on sequence-based bacterial identification, blood and blood product screening, molecular diagnosis of sexually transmitted diseases, advances in mycobacterial diagnosis, novel and rapid emerging microorganism detection and genotyping, and future directions in the diagnostic microbiology field. We hope our readers like this technique-based approach and your feedback is highly appreciated. We want to thank the authors who devoted their time and efforts to produce their chapters. We also thank the staff at Springer Press, especially Melissa Ramondetta, who initiated the whole project. Finally, we greatly appreciate the constant encouragement of our family members through this long effort. Without their unwavering faith and full support, we would never have had the courage to commence this project.

*Syphilis* - Neuza Satomi Sato 2011-11-21

Syphilis, a sexually transmitted disease was first described in 15th century, is caused by *Treponema pallidum* subsp. *pallidum* and occurs worldwide. This book is a collection of chapters presenting the novel knowledge about the *T. pallidum* and some historical and up to date information about venereal disease and syphilis. The collection of articles includes: immunological aspects recognition of *T. pallidum* by the pattern recognition receptors of the innate immune; the whole genome analysis of treponemes and new targets for its molecular diagnosis; some historical aspects of venereal diseases treatment; natural history of syphilis including clinical manifestation and epidemiology; a clinical aspects dealing with psychiatric manifestations of neurosyphilis; spatial and temporal patterns of primary syphilis and secondary syphilis described by the spatial and space-time scan statistics; a commonly used methods for laboratorial diagnosis, the

serological response to treatment of syphilis and safety in blood transfusion. I hope this book will be useful for students and research fellows as well for the wide audience.

*Sex-Based Differences in Lung Physiology* -

Patricia Silveyra 2021-03-18

This book provides an overview of the latest experimental work on sex-based differences in lung function and inflammation. Readers will learn how these differences relate to individual predispositions for the development of lung disease in men and women, and in different stages of their reproductive lives. Further, the book focuses on diseases that predominantly affect women or men, with an emphasis on the physiological mechanisms underlying their pathobiology. In turn, these findings are complemented by chapters on recent studies, which investigate how circulating sex hormone levels impact the lung's innate immune response to environmental agents and air pollution. The pathogeneses of asthma and viral respiratory infection are also major focus areas. As an outlook, the book also discusses current and future research directions aimed at developing sex-specific therapies for lung disease. To examine these anatomical and physiological differences in the male and female respiratory systems, the authors employ a broad range of methods from molecular and clinical biology. Accordingly, the book will be a fascinating read for physiologists and clinicians alike.

**Novel Approaches to Testing for Sexually Transmitted Infections, Including HIV and Hepatitis B and C in Europe** - European

Centre for Disease Prevention and Control 2012  
Testing strategies are central to the control of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and hepatitis B and C. Accurate testing enables treatment of those infected and subsequent reduction in infectiousness, reduced clinical consequences, identification as well as treatment of potentially infected partners and opportunities for health promotion and behaviour modification due to awareness of infection. Nonetheless, there is huge variation in the availability of current routine diagnostic tests within Europe. Recent changes in the field of testing for STIs, HIV, hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV) include the widespread implementation of

nucleic acid amplification technologies (NAATs) for chlamydia and gonorrhoea diagnosis and the development of HIV screening tests that are easy to use and give a result almost immediately. Such technological advances can open up opportunities for more accurate, near-patient testing, provision of rapid results, or noninvasive sampling. Developments in communication technology in recent years have enabled the emergence of ehealth (electronic-health) and m-health (mobile-health) activities. A framework was developed to structure and categorise the advances and novel approaches, consisting of i) test technical principle and biological sample, ii) person-context, and iii) information cascade, together with the crosscutting themes of evaluation, regulation and quality control and quality assurance. A literature search was conducted using broad search criteria for recent publications from European countries, the United States, Canada and Australia. Further information and examples were obtained from grey literature and online searches and input from experts. Amplification, molecular techniques and non-amplification techniques such as lateral flow have been applied to test for a wide range of infections. Nucleic Acid Amplification Technologies (NAATs) tests offer accurate diagnosis, while lateral flow and flow-through tests require limited equipment, ease of use and can give results almost immediately. Rapidity together with the accuracy of molecular diagnostics has been made possible with the advent of microfluidic and nano-based NAATs technologies. Tests for chlamydia and gonorrhoea, and HIV viral load are in development. Microfluidic and nano-based technologies use very low reagent volumes which improve efficiency, reduce costs and increase portability. Non-amplification point of care (POC) tests for HIV based on lateral flow and flow-through principles have been extensively evaluated and implemented in service provision. They enable screening results to be given to participants within 30 minutes and hence delivered at the same visit. However, development of POC devices and particularly any future self-testing devices will be challenged by the need for simple methods to collect the biological sample and apply it to the device, with

minimal sample processing by the user to minimise operator error. Expanding testing for STIs, HIV, HBV and HCV to healthcare settings outside specialist health care services and community services can be used to expand access to testing and to target key populations. HIV and chlamydia testing are leading the way in moving testing to these types of venue. A systematic review reported that HIV testing in community settings can be successful in diagnosing previously undiagnosed HIV infections in many most at-risk populations, and is acceptable to both the target group and staff undertaking the tests. The use of the internet for recruiting young people or other target groups to test for STIs is considered to be the most innovative method of offering home-testing, offering convenience and privacy through postal receipt of kits while not limiting the target population by geographical location or the necessity of being registered with a healthcare organisation, school or other list. It is now common practice in many settings to disseminate results by SMS message, considerably reducing staff time for giving out results and managing clinic workload. An effective component of STI control strategies is partner notification and treatment: and there are a number of examples of internet tools which have been developed with the aim of helping both provider-led and patient-led partner notification. Evaluations of new diagnostics and new approaches to testing are required to ensure effective and cost-effective use and implementation of novel technologies and approaches. Diagnostic devices are regulated at the EU-level under the Directive 98/79/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 October 1998 on in vitro diagnostic (IVD) medical devices, and the Commission Decision of 3 February 2009 amending Decision 2002/364/EC on common technical specifications for IVD medical devices. Although there are minimum performance standards for devices to detect HIV, HBV and HCV, these do not exist for other infections. Self-testing and POC IVD devices also fall under the scope of the European Directive and are additionally required to perform appropriately, given the skills and means available to the intended users, and the variation that can reasonably be anticipated in

their technique and environment. The regulation of health-related mobile phone apps and websites is currently being debated in both Europe and the US. There is country specific legislation regulating the availability of POC diagnostic devices directly to the public. Quality control of the production of commercially available diagnostic tests is regulated by CE-marking. Quality assurance and quality control of testing facilities however are not regulated at the European level. European countries may have their own accreditation scheme. New testing technologies combined with modern information and communication systems will enable the development of novel testing pathways. These novel approaches have the potential to improve access to, and hence uptake of, testing among individuals and

population groups at risk as well as increase the proportion of infected individuals treated earlier in infection. These novel approaches will have clinical impact by improving the prognosis for those with infections as well as public health impact by reducing onward transmission and thus incidence and prevalence of infection. Research priorities for novel technologies for HIV, HBV, HCV and STI testing include: developing models, or frameworks, for strategic, evidence based decision making on adoption of novel approaches to testing; technology adoption type reviews of novel technologies and approaches; operational research on the implementation of testing programmes; and continued development and improvement of the technical aspects of testing devices.

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